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(54) Title: **HIGH-MOLECULAR WEIGHT NON-IONIC SURFACTANTS COMPRISING ANIONIC TERMINAL END GROUPS**

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to high molecular weight non-ionic surfactants comprising terminal anionic end groups or salts thereof, a process for the preparation of such surfactants and the use of such surfactants in decreasing the hardness of aqueous systems, desalination or softening of water, removal of heavy metals from aqueous systems contaminated with such metals, and in industrial and domestic wash processes and products used for such processes.

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